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**JUN 13 2002**

**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Application of :  
Johnson et al. :  
Application No. 09/973,560 : DECISION NOTING JOINDER OF  
Filed: 9 October, 2001 : INVENTOR AND PETITION UNDER  
Attorney Docket No. RD-28,600 : 37 CFR 1.47(a) MOOT

Papers filed on 10 May, 2002, subsequent to the filing of a Petition Under 37 CFR 1.47(a), on 9 April, 2002, included a Declaration signed by the previously non-signing inventor, Maureen L. Chase, in compliance with 37 CFR 1.63.

In view of the joinder of the inventor, further consideration under 37 CFR 1.47(a) is moot; this application does not have any rule 1.47(a) status and no such status should appear on the file wrapper. This application need not be returned to this office for any further consideration under 37 CFR 1.47(a).

This application will be forwarded to Office of Initial Patent Examination for further processing.

Since joinder occurred prior to consideration of the petition under 37 CFR 1.47(a), the petition fee of \$130.00 is unnecessary. The petition fee has not been charged.

Telephone inquiries related to this decision should be directed to the undersigned at (703)308-6918.

Douglas I. Wood  
Petitions Attorney  
Office of Petitions  
Office of the Deputy Commissioner  
for Patent Examination Policy